

USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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FRIDAY APRIL 15, 2005 VOL. 52 NO. 45

U.S. Department of Agriculture

Agricultural Marketing Service

Poultry Programs

Market News Branch

NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



LOADE

Trade sentiment was mostly steady going into the weekend with majority prices in the major terminal markets unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate with best interest where product was either featured, or into fast food outlets. Supplies were adequate for requirements, but offerings were limited. In the parts structure, trading was moderate for late week business. Overall, dark meat was adequate to tight and held with confidence, and tenders were in close balance. Other, breast items and wings were at least sufficient. In production areas, live supplies were less available but still moderate; weights were usually desirable to a tad lighter.

<u>Preliminary report</u> Prices negotated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 18-APR-2005 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A

(Ir	cluding branded pr	WTD					
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	<u>AVG</u>	LOADS			
Delivered to First Receivers							
Chicago	66.00-69.00	55.00-76.00	68.94	29			
New York	71.00-73.00						
Los Angeles	80.00						
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent							
Mississippi	73.00-76.00	61.00-80.00	73.94	87			

GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 74.00 cents based on icepacked USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT

LUADS	KANGE	FRIDAT PRELIIVI. WTD. AVG.
987	69.96-76.00	73.89
Georgia f.o.b	. dock confirmed prelimin	ary weighted average price on
ice packed p	arts: WTD. AVC	3. VOLUME

DANCE

ice packed parts:	WID. AVG.	VOLUME
<u>ITEM</u>	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)
LINE RUN TENDERS	181.50	1,286
BREASTS - B/S	153.50	5,701
BREASTS - WHOLE	84.00	1,356
THIGH MEAT - B/S	98.00	997
LEG QUARTERS	35.50	7,049
WINGS	89.50	2,949
T1		

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was mostly steady. Trade interest was light to fair on mixed offerings; small weight birds were in close balance, heavy birds adequate to fully sufficient. Retail interest was noted as improved and ranged moderate to good, best for features. Food service movement was moderate and best into fast food. Floor stocks were mixed; weights desirable. Parts trade was limited to as needed basis, which varied. Offerings of dark meat cuts were light on higher asking prices; wings and tenders were moderate with remaining breast cuts moderate to at times heavy and discounted. The market tone was firm on dark meat, fully steady on tenderloins, and cautiously steady on the balance.

<u>SOUTHERN BROILER</u> Trade sentiment was steady. Retail and food service interest was fair to moderate. Supplies of all sizes were clearing. However, offering were about adequate to satisfy trade needs. In the parts structure, movement was fair to good. Dark meat was limited to short, tenders were balanced to well cleared. Balance of breast items and wings were sufficient for current needs. In production areas, live supplies were light to moderate at mostly desirable weights.

<u>WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS</u> Preliminary majority prices remained unchanged. The market tone was about steady. Trading reported for next week deliveries were at mainly unchanged to occasionally higher prices. Offerings was in fair balance on small sizes and fully adequate on heavy weights. Buying activity fair. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best to cover ad activities. Dealers anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. The market tone was overall steady on white meat items and fully steady to firm on dark items.

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS Trucklot buying activity on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to fairly good, mostly moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were adequate and clearing satisfactorily. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate. The market tone was steady. In the parts structure, breast items were sufficient and noted as in better balance than earlier in the week. Tenderloins and dark meat cuts were in good balance to tight. Wings were adequate.

<u>DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS</u> Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds increased and was fair to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings were adequate and in generally good balance. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to heavy. Processing schedules were moderate to moderately heavy. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 71 to 83 cents. Trade sentiment was steady. In the parts complex, breast items were adequate and in a closer better balance compared to earlier in the week. Tenders were tight. Leg cuts were in good balance to short. Wings were generally adequate.

*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA.

DRANDED HO ODADE A

		BRANDED U.S. GRADE A
RANGE		65-90
WEIGHTED AVERA	AGE	73.37
NO. OF BOXES		7,996
CUMULATIVE	04/11/05-04/15/05	74.31
	04/12/04-04/16/04	78.53
NO. OF BOXES	04/11/05-04/15/05	33,909
	04/12/04-04/16/04	30,135

VOL. 52 NO. 45		USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT				FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 2005				
APR 14			UTHERN STA	TES BRO						APR 15
I	POUND	S		WTD	POUNDS					WEEKLY
<u>ITEM</u>	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	AVG	(000)	<u>RANGE</u>	<u>MAJORITY</u>	WTD AVG	<u>(000)</u>	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	680	130.00-156.00	134-140	139.29	530	134.00-156.00	-	138.28	3,455	140.80
TENDERLOINS	216	160.00-205.00	162-167	165.30	176	158.00-200.00	165-169	166.14	1,163	163.30
BREAST - LINE RUN	90	82.00-92.00	84-86	86.73	TC	O FEW TO REP	ORT		463	85.13
FRONT HALVES	7	TOO FEW TO RE	EPORT		TC	O FEW TO REP	ORT		320	76.38
LEGS	7	TOO FEW TO RE	EPORT		TC	O FEW TO REP	ORT		241	47.98
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	629	33.00-38.00	34-35	34.72	604	33.00-39.00	34-35	34.61	3,091	34.22
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	1,070	35.00-43.00	36	36.19	1,030	35.00-40.00	36	36.27	4,950	36.12
WINGS (WHOLE)	297	62.00-94.00	86-88	85.52	297	62.00-94.00	85-87	84.84	1,525	85.03
WINGS (CUT)	460	79.00-103.00	99-101	99.24	430	79.00-106.00	100-103	99.20	2,236	99.48
DRUMSTICKS	39	42.00-56.00	-	47.03	TC	O FEW TO REP	ORT		251	45.31
THIGHS	35	45.00-56.00	-	47.97	70	38.00-56.00	-	41.06	223	44.55
B/S THIGHS	70	89.00-105.00	-	98.14	65	92.00-105.00	-	98.77	415	97.66
WHOLE BODY INDEX BAS	SED ON	N SOUTHERN S	TATES PART	******** S	**************************************	BODY INDEX BA	ASED ON SC	OUTHERN ST	******** ATES PA	******* \RTS

TRADING FOR APR 14, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK.

RANGE TODAY'S AVERAGE TRADING FOR APR 15, 2005 F.O.B. DOCK. **RANGE TODAY'S AVERAGE 5-DAY AVERAGE**

> **RANGE** 97-99 99-107

> > 65-73

180-192

53.50 - 58.50 55.81

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy 55.24

NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS - Trucklot buying activity increased slightly under typical weekend interest, but was generally no better than moderate. Offerings of boneless skinless breast were adequate to at least adequate; bone-in breasts were sufficient and clearing satisfactorily. Tenderloins were well cleared to short. Wings were adequate. Dark meat cuts were in close balance to well cleared. Retail and distributive movement was fair to moderate, best for scattered feature activity. The market tone was fully steady to firm on tenders and most dark meat cuts. Breast items and wings remained generally steady.

ICE PACKED BROILER/FRYER PARTS, DELIVERED TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND.

APR 14, 2005	CURRENT NEC	S WTD		CURRENT NEG	WTD		AP	R 15, 2005 WEEKLY
ITEM	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS	WTD AV	G VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	148-153	151.78	695,560	148-153	153.36	702,440	152.88	3,010,770
TENDERLOINS	160-165	156.81	181,105	165-170	158.94	109,020	156.90	739,946
BREAST - WITH RIBS	82-83	91.49	134,880	82-83	84.66	126,280	89.05	593,760
BREAST - LINE RUN	82	83.34	99,240	82	84.75	94,800	83.68	524,400
LEGS	49-50	49.02	303,560	49-50	51.18	278,920	49.68	1,369,800
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	35-36	35.17	490,200	36-37	36.35	263,000	35.46	1,722,440
DRUMSTICKS	37-38	37.71	332,760	38-39	39.44	227,680	40.14	887,140
THIGHS	41-42	48.91	70,520	41-42	51.07	77,040	49.83	390,260
B/S THIGHS	98-99	95.28	121,960	99-100	96.52	116,640	95.80	510,720
WINGS (WHOLE)	85-86	87.99	186,720	85-86	89.90	167,600	88.02	956,240
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPE	PED) 10-12	11.58	17,080	10-12	12.90	27,610	12.09	97,090
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	30-35	28.41	18,760	30-35	27.28	12,240	28.34	75,960
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	55-60	56.42	24,720	55-60	57.83	24,720	56.61	112,920

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG).* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

** WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

						,				
SLAUGH	TER OF B	ROILER-FR	YERS (IN	THOUS	SANDS)			<u> </u>	_	
ESTIM	IATED	ACTU	<u>AL</u>	AVG '	WT	ACTUAL	AVG WTS	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA	A (L.A. AREA) PRO	OCESSED
(1,000)	(1,000))			(1,000)		POULTRY, DELIVERED T	O RETAILERS	
04/15	04/14	04/13	04/12	04/13	04/12	04/08	04/06			RANGE
3,893	4,068	3,671	4,026	5.44	5.30	4,207	5.21	FRESH FRYERS		97-99
5,587	5,387	5,378	5,281	5.14	5.19	5,094	5.11	ROASTERS 4# & UP		99-107
2,278	2,296	2,256	2,015	5.66	5.64	2,172	5.69	HENS UNDER 5#		
2,145	2,172	1,913	2,121	4.98	4.93	2,036	5.03	HENS OVER 5#		65-73
3,318	3,114	2,755	3,027	5.70	5.70	3,164	5.66	DUCKS		
na 2,562	2,482	2,323	2,390	6.54	6.55	2,793	6.49	RABBITS-WHOLE		
2,659	2,536	2,523	2,534	5.38	5.36	2,471	5.29	RABBITS-CUT UP		
22,442	22,055	20,819	21,394	5.49	5.47	21,937	5.43			
umulativ	e for state	es listed ab	ove. Bro	iler-frye	r slaug	hter under	federal in-	DELIVERED TO RESTAU	RANTS AND INST	<u> ITUTIONS</u>
15-Apr-0	5 and 16-	Apr-05 is e	stimated	to be 3	3,576,0	000 head u	2.00 per-			<u>RANGE</u>
reek ago	and up 7	.87 percen	t from a y	ear ago).			FRESH FRYERS	ICE PACK	105-107
2,919,00	0, last ye	ar 31,127,0	000)						DRY PACK	105-108
								ROASTERS 4# & UP	ICE PACK	108-111
Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 16-Apr-05 is							DRY PACK	111		
be 157,9	18,000 he	ead up 0.31	percent	from a w	eek ago	o, and up 3	77 percent	HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	89-93
go. (Las	t week 15	7,429,000,	last yea	r 152,18	5,000)				DRY PACK	89-95
1	ESTIN (1,000 04/15 3,893 5,587 2,278 2,145 3,318 na 2,562 2,659 22,442 109,546 umulativ 15-Apr-0 veek ago 2,919,00	ESTIMATED (1,000) 04/15 04/14 3,893 4,068 5,587 5,387 2,278 2,296 2,145 2,172 3,318 3,114 na 2,562 2,482 2,659 2,536 22,442 22,055 109,546(A) umulative for state 15-Apr-05 and 16- veek ago and up 7 2,919,000, last ye er-fryer slaughter to be 157,918,000 he	ESTIMATED (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) 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Broiler-fryer slaug 15-Apr-05 and 16-Apr-05 is estimated to be 33,576,00 veek ago and up 7.87 percent from a year ago. 2,919,000, last year 31,127,000)	ESTIMATED (1,000) ACTUAL (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) (1,000) 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DUCKS

(A) Fast food/

(C) Deboning

<u>YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED</u> Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 02-Apr-05 (Preliminary),

(B) Retail

	(71) I dot 100d/	(B) Notali	(O) Doboiming
	Food service		
	4.20 Lbs. & do	wn 4.21-5.25 Ll	bs. <u>5.26 Lbs. & Up</u>
		-THOUSANDS	
Head	33,681	19,740	50,865
Avg Weight	3.75	4.75	6.28
% of total /1	32%	19%	49%
Comparisons	3		
Last week	29,202	17,481	43,843
Avg Weight	3.74	4.73	6.34
% of total /1	32%	19%	48%
Same week,	yr ago /2 26,303	23,744	43,048
Avg Weight	3.76	4.70	6.34
% of total /1	28%	26%	46%
To date/2005 To date/2004	,	274,013 284,036	614,955 569,195

- /1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week. (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens. (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LTRD UNDE	R FEDER	AL INSPE	CTION	(Preliminary)
5 YOUNG	LIGHT	HEAVY	TOTAL	
CHICKENS	HENS	HENS	HENS	DUCKS
	THOU	SANDS—		
157,429	1,740	1,314	3,054	501
5.21	3.31	7.95	5.31	6.80
155,010	1,671	1,421	3,092	500
150,462	1,362	1,305	2,667	464
5.22	3.41	8.06	5.69	6.74
2,189,629	21,042	18,412	39,454	7,103
2,144,901	17,870	17,683	35,553	6,483
ed number c	of fryers a	vailable f	or market	ting based on
	5 YOUNG CHICKENS 157,429 5.21 155,010 150,462 5.22 2,189,629 2,144,901	5 YOUNG LIGHT CHICKENS HENS 157,429 1,740 5.21 3.31 155,010 1,671 150,462 1,362 5.22 3.41 2,189,629 21,042 2,144,901 17,870	Tyoung CHICKENS LIGHT HEAVY HENS 157,429 1,740 1,314 5.21 3.31 7.95 155,010 1,671 1,421 150,462 1,362 1,305 5.22 3.41 8.06 2,189,629 21,042 18,412 2,144,901 17,870 17,683	Tyoung CHICKENS LIGHT HEAVY HENS HENS HENS HENS HENS HENS HENS HENS

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 166.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period was 159.3 million head, or 6.7 million less than estimated available.

GRAYSTONE SMALL AN	IMAL AUCTIOI RANGE	<u>N -</u> APF	RIL 12, 2 RANG	
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.10 - 1.15	Pigeons		3.25 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.10 - 1.15	White Pigeons	6.00 -	6.50ea.
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	1.00 - 1.20	Rabbits 4-6 LBS	3 1.70 -	1.80
Crossbred Fowl 5-9 LBS	31.10 - 1.20	Rabbits 6-9 LBS	3 1.20 -	1.30
Crossbred Roosters		Bunnies	5.00 -	7.00 ea.
4-6 LBS	.90 - 1.00	Guinea Pigs	.75 -	1.50
Guinea Fowl	1.70 - 1.80	Goats	60.00 -6	55.00ea.
Banty Roosters	4.00 - 4.25ea	.Kid Goats	35.00 -4	10.00ea.
Banty Hens	2.00 - 2.50ea	.Doves	3.00 -	4.00 ea.
Silkies	2.50 - 2.75ea	.Pullets 4-6 LBS	.90 -	1.00

Total Coops Sold 480

EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 11-APRIL-2005

DUCKLINGS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER POUND

ORIGIN LONG ISLAND MOSTLY	FROZEN 143-145	FRESH 149-151
MIDWEST MOSTI Y	127-131	128-133

ROASTERS: PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED, CENTS PER POUND

	RANGE	MOSILY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	66.00-74.50	72.00-74.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	67.00-86.50	69.00-75.00

SQUABS: NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ. 63.36-72.90 14 OZ. 69.84-81.00 16 OZ. 74.88-89.10

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

<u>CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS</u> Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment steady. Demand was usually good. Supplies were adequate to balanced. Schedules full-time to over-time. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.50, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIV-ERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS. WEEK OF 11-APR-2005

ORIGIN FROZEN FRESH MIDWEST AND OTHERS 120-135 127-139

ESTIMATED U.S. FRYER SLAUGHTER/ FRYER AVAILABILITY COMPARISON

23

MILLION HEAD **MILLION HEAD WEEK ENDING** SLAUGHTERED **AVAILABLE PCT AVG WT** 5 162.0 5.24 March 163.0 99% 12 159.5 161.9 99% 5.16 159.2 19 162.0 98% 5.20 26 153.0 164.0 93% 5.19 April 2 156.9 165.4 95% 5.17 9 159.3 166.0 96% 5.21 Year to date 2216.1 2270.7 98% April 16 166.2

BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER

U	r	<u>ار</u>	ler	F	ed	er	<u>al</u>	<u>Ir</u>	<u>1S</u>	p	e	C	ti	0	<u>n</u>	

166.1

THOUSANDS								
W/E Broilers Cattle	04/16/05	04/09/05	<u>% CHG</u>	04/17/04	<u>% CHG</u>			
Broilers	157,918	157,429*	+0.31	152,185*	+3.77			
Cattle	586	582	+01	595*	-02			
Hogs *ACTUAL	1,993	1,984	0	1,969*	+01			

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report on heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to fair at best for light canners; heavy canners were mostly fair with most available supplies being used internally. Offerings were fully adequate for light canners; generally adequate for heavy canners. Processing schedules were mostly normal. The undertone was steady to about steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

LIGHT CANNER HENS **HEAVY CANNER HENS** (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) (WITHOUT NECKS) 24-30 MAJORITY 26-30 TOO FEW TO REPORT

CENTS PER POUND. CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS. FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS) 25-33 MAJORITY 28-31

HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)

TOO FEW TO REPORT

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN Prices were unchanged when compared to a week ago. Demand ranged fairly good to good for current needs. Offerings of spent hens were fully adequate to instances ample for current trade needs. Processing schedules were noted as normal. Trade sentiment was steady.

> RANGE **MAJORITY**

REMOVAL COST 3-13 8 -11

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Trading levels were too few to report. Demand was moderate for spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

REMOVAL COST TOO FEW TO REPORT

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN Removal costs ranged unchanged. Offerings were ample with demand mostly good as producers continue to remove spent hens at an increased pace. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady.

RANGE **MAJORITY**

0-8.5 REMOVAL COST 6-8.5

WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN Plant schedules full. Offferings ample.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) *

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 18-APR-05

SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was at least moderate for the mostly adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules for next week were noted as normal. Sales of finished product were fully sufficient for current needs. The undertone was at least steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

AT FARM BUYER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT **FOB PLANT** TOO FEW TO REPORT

SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS Trading levels were too few to report. Demand was moderate for spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was generally steady.

RANGE MAJORITY

AT FARM BUYER LOADING TOO FEW TO REPORT

* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

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